Overseas training for Indian Defence Forces personnel

342. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Defence Forces personnel are deputed to military institutions in various countries for receiving specialized training under the International Military Education and Training Programme;

(b) the names of the countries which are affiliated to the Programme;

(c) the details of institutions overseas where Indian personnel received training since 2001;

(d) whether personnel are deputed to countries outside the Programme also for receiving expert training; and

(e) if so, country-wise details thereof, indicating separately wherever the purposes were to receive expertise in counter terrorism/insurgency, year-wise since 1998?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Indian Defence Forces personnel are being deputed to United States of America under its International Military Education and Training Programme. The countries affiliated to this programme are decided by the United States Government. Indian Defence Personnel have been deputed to approximately 150 institutions overseas for training since 2001.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Indian Defence pesonnel have been deputed to United States of America, United Kingdom-Australia, Singapore for counter-terrorism/ insurgency-related training.

Strengthening the coast guard

343. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to strengthen the Coast Guard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total cost of strengthening the Coast Guard; and

(d) the time by when the Coast Guard will be provided all necessary equipments including vessels?